Harold Weisberg
Hyattstown, Md. 20734
October 12, 1966

Mr. Curtis E. Hill
P.O.Box 3015
Dallas, Tex. 75221

Dear Mr. Hill,

You are a brave man, you do me honor, and you are a credit to the profession in which, ultimately, the freedom of us all and the integrity of our country is vested. Your phone call this afternoon made me happy, so happy that I was slow-witted. For the purpose you intend, I cannot accept payment for the books.

They should reach you before this letter does. The postmaster in the next town was working overtime and the mail had not yet left on its tortuous way to Washington, so it is going out today. He said the P.O. promises that any airmail sent special delivery from here will be delivered some time the next day. Therefore I also sent it special delivery. I hope this time the word of the post office is good. It has not treated my mail as most of us expect in all cases.

While we were speaking my wife checked out files. The copy Cokesbury's had is a sample I sent them. They have never ordered from us. It is possible for them or anyone else in Dallas wanting the book to get it from Raymar Book Co., Monrovia, Calif wholesalers with Texas customers. Individuals ordering from us send us $5.05 including mailing costs (no handling charge) and we send the book the same day. We also fill wholesale orders the same day and at normal trade discounts. Aldrich had been ordering from us regularly. They may now be getting the book from Raymar.

The history of the book after its publication is an inspiration to me in that it shows the great number of Americans who do have deep feelings and go to the trouble of expressing them. We have received a tremenduous and gratifying emotional outpouring from people from all parts of the country and all walks of life. It dertainly has helped in the tougher times, and it still does, for we are still deep in debt. The printer has been true to the noble traditions of that craft, having printed with book knowing I was in debt, without income and could give him nothing but my word and a borrowed $500 down payment. As the money comes in from the sale of the book we give him 100% of the gross, except that for about a month we have been taking the postage from it. Until then we also put out the postage to give him the entire gross. Monday we finished paying for the second printing and ordered the fourth, which should be completed by the end of next week.

While the attitude of the press is changing, slowly but certainly, I still suffe the curse of the first. Radio has been much more fair, TV less so, save for individual stations. Of them all, I have greatest respect for the metromedia people, both radio and TV. WNEW-TV in New York has taped and will on November 12 syndicate a three hour special. They aired me for two hours the night of July 23-4, with a tremenduous respon They made no effort to censor or suppress, were and have been completely honorable and public-service minded.

I will be interested in your opinion as a lawyer and as a lawyer who has read my book and "The Second Oswald", which I believe comes from mine and I suspect in a manner not approved by the law. I can trace quotations and footnotes, aside from content. I find that where I omitted part of the beginning and ending of testimony, exactly the same words where included and omitted. Where I gave inclusive references, to more than the cited testimony, that it also does, and where I referred to only parts, that it does do. I have found a case where I by accident omitted the third of three pages that I should have referred to only to find that, too, in this book.

I am surprised to find my name and that of others used for commercial purposes on its cover without my permission - indeed, without even being asked. This is not in any sense a review, nor was its original form, a story in the New York Review. It is presented as an original work, yet in the 60 pages I have read it has nothing important not in my book and not credited to my book. The "noisy and tendentious" you quoted you will soon be in a position to evaluate for yourself. I find a remarkable coincidence between the alleged author's appearance in Europe and the use of this combination of words, used by none other of whom I am aware, in the London Sunday Times.

Among those who have been helpful and friendly since they learned about my book are a young lawyer in the New York area and a business executive in that city. They are talking about establishing a foundation to continue my work, something I would find gratifying. There is also talk of it winding up in an archive in a major university. I think there should be an unofficial one, and I would hope it could include the work of others. But for this eventuality I am keeping all my notes and correspondence.

The sequel which I mentioned briefly does not duplicate WHITEWASH. It goes further, adding details not then available and, I think, telling exactly how the whitewash was accomplished.

May I ask if you are in a position to and willing to check certain things for me in Dallas. I anticipate this may present certain hazards to you, because the things in which I am interested may cause certain people to worry about my purposes and the knowledge I have that could lead to such questions. This includes the records of arrests and the disposition of cases. The authorities will likely understand the purpose of such inquiry. Before you answer and instinctively reply in the affirmative, please think this over, for there has been a strange upsetting of the actuarial tables in your area, and I do not want to further load them!

Are there others like you who may be willing to look into other things to which I can refer you? I think I know where there is much fresh and irrefutable evidence. I can only conjecture what it might reveal and its examination would be time-consuming. I can refer you to considerable motion-picture footage, for example, unused, and some still pictures that may or may not still exist and may or may not be available if they do. There are many open leads in Dallas. The question in my mind is would those following them survive it?

In any event, thank you very much for your call and especially for its purpose.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg